U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT

I. HEADING

DATE: July 3, 2008
SUBJECT: Tidewater Baling Site, Newark, Essex County, New Jersey
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POLREP: Four (4) [06/18/08 - 07/03/08]

II. BACKGROUND

Site No.:	4N
Contract No.:	EP-W-04-054
Delivery Order No.:	057
Response Authority:	CERCLA
ERNS No.:	N/A
CERCLIS No.:	NJD011534708
NPL Status:	Non-NPL
State Notification	NJDEP notified
Action Memo Status:	March 12, 2008
Start Date:	March 13, 2008
Completion Date:	N/A

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III. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category

Inactive scrap metal processing facility

B. Site Description

The Tidewater Baling Site is located at 26 St. Charles Street in Newark, Essex County, New Jersey. The Site is a former scrap metal processing and baling facility that is currently vacant. The area of the Site is approximately 2.5 acres and is bordered by Conrail to the north, St. Charles Street to the west, and the Ironbound Recreation Center to the south. A number of industrial facilities are located north of the Site. The closest residence is approximately 100 feet from the Site to the west, and several thousand residents are located within a quarter mile of the Site. There are several abandoned structures on the Site in poor condition, as well as remnants of metal structures used in the former baling process. Except for the asphalt and cobble driveway at the entrance to the facility, the majority of the Site is soil covered. Soils in various portions of the Site contain ash, fine metal particles and shavings, and areas with visible petroleum staining.

Historical investigations have revealed elevated levels of heavy metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, and PCBs in soils at the Site. In 1989, EPA conducted a removal action to restrict the migration of oily discharges and to limit access to the Site from an adjoining recreational area. More recently, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has conducted an emergency cleanup which included the installation of a fence surrounding the majority of the Site, and the removal of 60 cubic yards of heavily oil-saturated soils and the removal of 12,500 gallons of petroleum from drums and leaking tankers.

On September 25, 2006, the EPA Removal Action Branch (RAB) received a request from the NJDEP to evaluate the Site for a CERCLA removal action. Pursuant to this request, the RAB's Removal Assessment and Enforcement Section conducted a site investigation which culminated in the issuance of a Removal Site Evaluation (RSE) on November 14, 2007. The RSE included a Letter of Technical Assistance (LTA) which was prepared by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services through a cooperative agreement with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. The LTA concluded that "conditions at the Site represent a public health hazard regarding exposures via trespassing and an indeterminate public health hazard regarding the lead contamination along the sidewalk area of St. Charles Street." Based upon the available information, the RSE determined that "a CERCLA removal action is warranted at the Site to address the potential threats posed to the community surrounding the Site and to the persons that enter onto the Site."

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current Situation

The purpose of this removal action is to eliminate the threat of direct contact posed to the public by surface soils (2') at the Site which are contaminated with hazardous substances including lead and PCBs. This removal action was initiated on March 13, 2008, and includes the ongoing excavation, stockpiling, transport and disposal (T&D) of lead and PCB contaminated soils. The excavated areas of the Site are being backfilled with one foot of crushed stone as the excavation progresses.

2. Removal Activities to Date

ERRS has excavated and disposed of approximately 80% of the contaminated surface soils at the Site. Approximately one half of the remaining 20% of soils are lead contaminated, and the remaining half includes lead contaminated soil and debris which also contain PCBs >50 ppm. The T&D of the remaining lead contaminated soils and lead/PCB contaminated soils and debris is ongoing (see Disposition of Wastes Table for details).

Other actions during the reporting period included the continued cutting and sizing of rail track into 10 foot sections and shipment of the track for recycling. The western and eastern balers were excavated and backfilled with crushed stone in preparation for their removal. The above grade steel structures of the western and eastern balers and three mobile cranes were subsequently broken down and shipped for recycling. EPA continued to maintain 24-hour security at the Site.

The EPA continued a dust control program to eliminate the potential for the off-site migration of contaminants to the adjoining Ironbound Recreation Center (IRC) and surrounding community during all demolition, excavation and loading activities at the Site. The dust control program included the ongoing application of water to work areas during excavation, demolition and loading activities. RST 2's total particulate monitoring and the collection of air samples for total lead continued during the reporting period. No particulate or lead levels were detected above the Site action levels of 0.2 mg/m^3 and 0.050 mg/m^3 respectively. Particulate monitoring and the collection of air samples will continue throughout the course of the Removal Action.

B. Planned Removal Activities

Removal activities will continue with the excavation and stockpiling of contaminated surface soils, the backfilling of excavated areas, and the T&D of stockpiled soils. The excavation and T&D phases of the project are expected to be completed in July 2008. The dust control program, including water application and perimeter air monitoring and sampling, will be maintained throughout the course of the removal action process.

C. Enforcement

The Executor of the Estate for the PRP has signed an access agreement with EPA authorizing its continued access to the Site to undertake actions authorized by CERCLA, as may be necessary to abate the threat posed to public health, welfare and the environment by the release and threat of release of hazardous substances from the Site. At this time, EPA has not identified a viable PRP to which it could issue an order regarding these response activities.

D. Key Issues

An action memorandum requesting a ceiling increase of $700,000 has been submitted for concurrence. The additional funds are required to complete the ongoing removal action which has incurred unanticipated costs as the result of escalating fuel prices and the unearthing of subsurface impediments (i.e. underground storage tanks, compressed gas cylinders, buried railroad tracks) during the excavation process.

V. COST INFORMATION

Project Mitigation Ceiling	$ 3,312,348
Mitigation Contract Costs (as of 7/3/08)	$ 2,782,000
Remaining Project Ceiling	16.0 %

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any cost recovery claim.

VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTES
As of 7/3/2008

Waste Stream	Manifest Type	Quantity Loaded	Total Quantity	Weight Unit	Transporter	Designated Facility	Treatment
Heavy No.1 Steel	Bill of Lading	21 Trucks	280	Tons	Metal Management Northeast/ Newark, NJ	Metal Management Northeast/ Newark, NJ	Recycle
Long Length Rail	Bill of Lading	2 Trucks	18.5	Tons	Metal Management Northeast/ Newark, NJ	Metal Management Northeast/ Newark, NJ	Recycle
Light Sheet Steel/ Light Scrap Steel	Bill of Lading	2 Trucks	80	Cu yd	Metal Management Northeast/ Newark, NJ	Metal Management Northeast/ Newark, NJ	Recycle
Wood	Bill of Lading	4 / 30 yd Roll-Off Container	120	Cu yd	Cali Carting Inc./ Kearny, NJ	TransLoad America Essex County Municipal Transfer Facility	Landfill
Brick/Block, General	Bill of Lading	24 / 20 yd Roll-Off Container	480	Cu yd	Cali Carting Inc./ Kearny, NJ	TransLoad America Essex County Municipal Transfer Facility	Landfill
Lead Contaminated Soil with PCBs < 50ppm	NJ Hazardous Waste Manifest	1/20 yd Roll-Off Container & 380 Trucks	9675	Tons	J&D Transport/ Vineland, NJ	Clean Earth/ Kearny, NJ	Fixation
Lead Contaminated Soil with PCBs < 50ppm with battery casing shards	NJ Hazardous Waste Manifest	13 Trucks	342	Tons	J&D Transport/ Vineland, NJ	Clean Earth/ Kearny, NJ	Fixation
Lead Contaminated Soil with PCBs < 50ppm & Cadmium > 1mg/L	NJ Hazardous Waste Manifest	15 Trucks	375	Tons	J&D Transport/ Vineland, NJ	Clean Earth/ Kearny, NJ	Fixation
Debris > 50% containing Lead Contaminated Soil with PCBs > 50ppm	NJ Hazardous Waste Manifest	18 Trucks	360	Tons	Environmental Protection & Improvement Company/ Mt. Arlington, NJ	US Ecology Idaho/ Grand View, ID	Fixation/ Micro Encapsulation